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PATENT **Case No. CML00635AT** (9640/122)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:

TIMOTHY B. DEAN, WILLIAM H. LYTLE

Serial No.

Examiner:

Filed:

Group Art Unit:

Title: ACTIVATION PLATE FOR ELECTROLESS AND

IMMERSION PLATING OF INTEGRATED CIRCUITS

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.56 and 1.97-1.98, Applicants would like to call the Examiner's attention to the references listed on the enclosed form PTO-1449. Copies of these references are also enclosed.

Applicants believe that none of the listed references, alone or in combination disclose or suggest Applicant's claimed invention.

Dated: JULY 1, 2003

Respectfully submitted,

CARDINAL LAW GROUP 1603 Orrington Avenue Suite 2000 Evanston, IL 60201 (847) 905-7111 FRANK C. NICHOLAS Registration No.33,983 Attorney for Applicants

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| Substitute for form 1449A/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT | | | | Co. | Complete if Known | | |
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| | | | | Application Number | | | |
| | | | | Filing Date | | | |
| | | | | First Named Inventor | TIMOTHY B. DEAN | | |
| | | | | Group Art Unit | | | |
| (use as many sheets as necessary) | | | | Examiner Name | | | |
| Sheet | 1 | of | 2 | Attorney Docket Number | CML00635AT (9640/122) | | |

| | | | U. 9 | S. PATENT DOCUMENTS | | |
|--------------------|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|---|
| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | U.S. Patent Number | Document Kind Code ² (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear |
| DM | | 6,362,089 B1 | | MOLLA ET AL. | 03/26/2002 | |
| | | 6,028,011 | | TAKASE ET AL. | 02/22/2000 | |
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| Examiner Initials* | Cite No. ¹ | Office ³ | Foreign Patent D Number ⁴ | Kind Code ² (if known) | Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document | Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY | Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear | Т" |
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EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation, if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 16 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English Language Translation is attached.